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REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES*

(covering its work during 1995)

Rapporteur: Mr. Farouk AL-ATTAR (Syrian Arab Republic)

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* This document contains chapters I and II of the Special Committee's report to the General Assembly. Other chapters of the report have been issued separately in documents A/50/23 (Parts II to VII). The complete report will be issued subsequently as Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/50/23).

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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

29 September 1995

Sir,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report to the General Assembly of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in accordance with General Assembly resolution 49/89 of 16 December 1994. This report covers the work of the Special Committee during 1995.

(Signed) Alimamy Pallo BANGURA
Acting Chairman of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

His Excellency
Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali
Secretary-General of the
United Nations
New York

CHAPTER I

ESTABLISHMENT, ORGANIZATION AND ACTIVITIES OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE

A. Establishment of the Special Committee

1. The Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples was established by the General Assembly pursuant to its resolution 1654 (XVI) of 27 November 1961. The Committee was requested to examine the application of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960, and to make suggestions and recommendations on the progress and extent of the implementation of the Declaration.

2. At its seventeenth session, after considering the report of the Special Committee, 1/ the General Assembly adopted resolution 1810 (XVII) of 17 December 1962, by which it enlarged the Special Committee with the addition of seven new members. It invited the Committee "to continue to seek the most suitable ways and means for the speedy and total application of the Declaration to all Territories which have not yet attained independence".

3. At the same session, by its resolution 1805 (XVII) of 14 December 1962 on the question of South West Africa, the General Assembly requested the Special Committee to discharge, mutatis mutandis, the tasks assigned to the Special Committee for South West Africa by resolution 1702 (XVI) of 19 December 1961. By its resolution 1806 (XVII) of 14 December 1962, the Assembly decided to dissolve the Special Committee for South West Africa.

4. By resolution 1970 (XVIII) of 16 December 1963, adopted at its eighteenth session, the General Assembly decided to dissolve the Committee on Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories and requested the Special Committee to study the information transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations. It also requested the Committee to take that information fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration in each of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to undertake any special study and prepare any special report it might consider necessary.

5. At the same session and at each subsequent session, the General Assembly, after considering the report of the Special Committee, 2/ has adopted a resolution renewing the mandate of the Committee.

6. On the occasion of the tenth, twentieth, twenty-fifth and thirtieth anniversaries of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, the General Assembly, by approving the related reports of the Special Committee, adopted resolutions 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, 35/118 of 11 December 1980, 40/56 of 2 December 1985 and 45/33 of 20 November 1990, containing a series of recommendations with a view to facilitating the speedy implementation of the Declaration.

7. At its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly, by adopting resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991, endorsed as a plan of action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, the proposals contained in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General dated 13 December 1991 (A/46/634/Rev.1). The plan, inter alia, contained the following provisions:

"22. The Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, with the cooperation of the administering Powers, should:

"(a) Prepare periodic analyses of the progress and extent of the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in each Territory;

"(b) Review the impact of the economic and social situation on the constitutional and political advancement of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

"(c) Organize during the Decade seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions alternately, as well as at United Nations Headquarters, to review the progress achieved in the implementation of the plan of action, with the participation of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, their elected representatives, the administering Powers, Member States, regional organizations, specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and experts.

"23. The Special Committee should continue to seek, as a matter of priority, the full cooperation of administering Powers with regard to the dispatch of United Nations visiting missions to Non-Self-Governing Territories.

"24. The Special Committee, with the cooperation of the administering Powers, should make every effort to facilitate and encourage the participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in regional and international organizations, as well as in the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, the Special Committee itself and other United Nations decolonization bodies."

8. At its forty-ninth session, after considering the report of the Special Committee, 3/ the General Assembly adopted resolution 49/89 of 16 December 1994, in which it, inter alia:

"5. Approves the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples covering its work during 1994, including the programme of work envisaged for 1995; 4/

"...

"10. Requests the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out those actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism in all Territories that have not yet exercised their right to self-determination and independence and, in particular:

"(a) To formulate specific proposals for the elimination of the remaining manifestations of colonialism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session;

"(b) To make concrete suggestions which could assist the Security Council in considering appropriate measures under the Charter with regard to developments in colonial Territories that are likely to threaten international peace and security;

"(c) To continue to examine the implementation by Member States of resolution 1514 (XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization;

"(d) To continue to pay special attention to the small Territories, in particular through the dispatch of regular visiting missions, and to recommend to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination and independence;

"(e) To take all necessary steps to enlist worldwide support among Governments, as well as national and international organizations, for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

"11. Calls upon the administering Powers to continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and to receive visiting missions to the Territories to secure first-hand information and ascertain the wishes and aspirations of their inhabitants;

"12. Also calls upon the administering Powers that have not participated in the work of the Special Committee to do so at its 1995 session;".

9. At the same session, the General Assembly also adopted nine other resolutions, two consensuses and four decisions relating to specific Territories or other items on the agenda of the Special Committee, as well as a number of other resolutions relevant to the work of the Committee, by which the Assembly entrusted the Committee with specific tasks in relation to those Territories and items. Those decisions are listed below.

1. Resolutions, consensuses and decisions concerning specific Territories

Resolutions

Territory	Resolution No.	Date of adoption
Western Sahara	49/44	9 December 1994
New Caledonia	49/45	9 December 1994
American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Tokelau, Turks and Caicos Islands, United States Virgin Islands	49/46 A and B	9 December 1994

Consensuses

Territory	Decision No.	Date of adoption
Gibraltar	49/420	9 December 1994
Pitcairn	49/421	9 December 1994
East Timor	49/402	23 September 1994
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	49/408	3 November 1994
St. Helena	49/422	9 December 1994

2. Resolutions concerning other items

Item	Resolution No.	Date of adoption
Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations	49/39	9 December 1994
Activities of foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under colonial domination	49/40	9 December 1994
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations	49/41	9 December 1994
Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories	49/42	9 December 1994
Dissemination of information on decolonization	49/90	16 December 1994

3. Decision concerning other questions

Question	Decision No.	Date of adoption
Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration	49/417	9 December 1994

10. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 23 September 1994, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to defer consideration of the item entitled "Question of East Timor" and to include it in the provisional agenda of its fiftieth session (see decision 49/402).

11. At its 50th plenary meeting, on 3 November 1994, the General Assembly decided to defer consideration of the item entitled "Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)" and to include it in the provisional agenda of its fiftieth session (decision 49/408).

4. Other resolutions and decisions relevant to the work of the Special Committee

12. Other resolutions and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session which were relevant to the work of the Special Committee and which were taken into consideration by the Committee are listed in a note by the Secretary-General on the Committee's organization of work (A/AC.109/L.1827).

13. Prior to the adoption on 16 December 1994 of resolution 49/89, by which the General Assembly approved the proposals contained in the report of the Special Committee regarding its proposed programme of work for 1995, and of resolution 49/90, concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization, the Assembly heard an oral statement by the representative of the Secretariat relating to programme budget implications of the recommendations contained in the draft resolutions (see A/49/PV.91).

5. Membership of the Special Committee

14. As at 1 January 1995, the Special Committee was composed of the following 24 members:

Afghanistan
Bulgaria
Chile
China
Congo
Côte d'Ivoire
Cuba
Ethiopia
Fiji
Grenada
India
Indonesia
Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Iraq
Mali
Papua New Guinea
Russian Federation
Sierra Leone
Syrian Arab Republic
Trinidad and Tobago
Tunisia
United Republic of Tanzania
Venezuela
Yugoslavia

A list of representatives who attended the meetings of the Special Committee in 1995 appears in document A/AC.109/INF/33.

15. By a letter dated 20 July 1995 addressed to the Chairman of the Special Committee (A/AC.109/2037), the Permanent Representative of Bulgaria to the United Nations informed the Chairman of the decision of the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria to withdraw from membership in the Special Committee as of 1 August 1995. On 18 August 1995, the Acting Chairman transmitted the above-mentioned letter to the President of the General Assembly for appropriate action.

B. Opening of the meetings of the Special Committee in 1995 and election of officers

16. The representative of the Secretary-General addressed the Special Committee at its opening (1441st) meeting, on 27 February 1995. The Chairman made a statement at the same meeting (see A/AC.109/PV.1441).

17. Also at the same meeting, the Special Committee unanimously elected the following officers:

Chairman: Mr. Eugene M. Pursoo (Grenada)

Rapporteur: Mr. Farouk Al-Attar (Syrian Arab Republic)

18. At the same meeting, the Special Committee decided to postpone to a future date the election of the two Vice-Chairmen pending the outcome of the related consultations.

19. At the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Sierra Leone, Chile, Cuba, Mali, India, the United Republic of Tanzania, Trinidad and Tobago and the Syrian Arab Republic, as well as by the Chairman (ibid.).

20. On 23 March, the Chairman of the Special Committee informed the members of the Committee that, on the basis of the related consultations, Mr. Bruno Rodríguez Parrilla (Cuba) and Mr. Alimamy Pallo Bangura (Sierra Leone) had agreed to become the two Vice-Chairmen of the Committee. No objections were received.

C. Organization of work

21. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February 1995, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work put forward by the Chairman (A/AC.109/L.1828), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to maintain its Working Group, which would continue to function as a steering committee, and the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance.

22. By adopting the Chairman's suggestions referred to above, the Special Committee also requested its Subcommittee to meet in May to complete consideration of the items allocated for its review and report and, in addition to considering the items indicated in paragraph 23 below, to carry out the specific tasks assigned to the Committee by the General Assembly concerning the items referred to it.

23. The Special Committee further decided to adopt the suggestions of the Chairman relating to the allocation of items and the procedure for their consideration (ibid., paras. 2 and 3).

24. Statements relating to the organization of work were made at the 1441st meeting, on 27 February, by the Chairman and by the representatives of Indonesia and Portugal (see A/AC.109/PV.1441); at the 1442nd, 1447th and 1448th meetings, on 10, 13 and 14 July, respectively, by the Acting Chairman (see A/AC.109/PV.1442, 1447, 1448); at the 1450th meeting, on 17 July, by the representatives of Cuba, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Russian Federation, the United Republic of Tanzania and India, as well as by the Acting Chairman and by the Director of General Assembly Affairs in the

Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat (see A/AC.109/PV.1450); and at the 1452nd meeting, on 18 July, by the representatives of India, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the United Republic of Tanzania, the Russian Federation, Trinidad and Tobago, Cuba, Papua New Guinea, the Syrian Arab Republic, China and Indonesia (see A/AC.109/PV.1452).

25. At the 1446th meeting, on 13 July, the Acting Chairman informed the Special Committee that the delegation of Mexico had expressed the wish to participate in the proceedings of the Committee. The Committee decided to accede to the request.

26. At its 1449th meeting, on 14 July, on the basis of the recommendations contained in the 102nd report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.1835), the Special Committee took further decisions relating to its organization of work.

27. The Special Committee was invited to the Eleventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, to be held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 14 to 20 October (see also para. 82).

D. Meetings of the Special Committee and its subsidiary bodies

28. In keeping with its resolve to continue taking all possible measures to rationalize the organization of its work, and with the full and close cooperation of its entire membership, the Special Committee and its subsidiary bodies were again able to keep to a minimum the number of their formal meetings, as indicated below, by holding, whenever possible, informal meetings and extensive consultations through Committee officers.

1. Special Committee

29. The Special Committee held 13 meetings at Headquarters during 1995, as follows:

First part of the session:

1441st meeting, 27 February;

Second part of the session:

1442nd to 1453rd meetings, 10 July to 16 August.

30. During the session, the Special Committee considered in plenary meetings the following questions and adopted decisions thereon, as indicated below:

Question	Meetings	Decision
Question of sending visiting missions to Territories	1442	A/50/23 (Part II), chap. IV, para. 20
Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations	1442	A/50/23 (Part IV), chap. VIII, para. 7

Question	Meetings	Decision
Special Committee decision of 15 August 1991 concerning Puerto Rico	1442, 1447	A/50/23 (Part I), chap. I, paras. 43 and 44
American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, Tokelau, Turks and Caicos Islands, United States Virgin Islands	1442, 1447, 1450, 1451	A/50/23 (Part VI), chap. X, para. 24
Activities of foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under colonial domination	1442, 1450, 1453	A/50/23 (Part III), chap. V, para. 15
Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration	1442, 1450, 1453	A/50/23 (Part III), chap. VI, para. 13
Gibraltar	1443	A/50/23 (Part V), chap. IX, para. 16
East Timor	1443-1446	A/50/23 (Part V), chap. IX, para. 10
New Caledonia	1445, 1447	A/50/23 (Part V), chap. IX, para. 24
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	1446	A/50/23 (Part VII), chap. XI, para. 13
Western Sahara	1449	A/50/23 (Part V), chap. IX, para. 29
Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations	1453	A/50/23 (Part IV), chap. VII, para. 13

31. The Special Committee considered the items allocated to its subsidiary bodies on the basis of the reports of the respective bodies (see paras. 33, 37 and 38) and adopted decisions as indicated below.

2. Subsidiary bodies

(a) Working Group

32. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February, the Special Committee decided to maintain its Working Group, the composition of which was to be as follows: Congo, Fiji, Islamic Republic of Iran and Trinidad and Tobago, together with the five officers of the Committee, namely, the Chairman (Grenada), the Vice-Chairmen (Cuba and Sierra Leone) and the Rapporteur (Syrian Arab Republic), as well as the Chairman (Papua New Guinea) and the Rapporteur (Chile) of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance.

33. During the period covered by the present report, the Working Group held three meetings, as well as a number of unofficial meetings, and submitted a report (A/AC.109/L.1835).

(b) Open-ended Working Group established at the 1441st meeting, on 27 February 1995

34. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February, on the recommendation of its Chairman, the Special Committee established an open-ended Working Group with responsibility for making recommendations on how to improve further the efficiency of the work of the Committee, with the same composition and mandate as the Working Group of 1994. The open-ended Working Group of the previous year was composed of all members of the Committee and was open to any State Member of the United Nations. Administering Powers, in particular, as well as representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories, were encouraged to participate. The open-ended Working Group did not hold any official meetings but held informal meetings and consultations through Committee members.

(c) Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance

35. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February, the Special Committee decided to maintain the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance, consisting of the entire membership of the Committee.

36. At the same meeting, the Special Committee elected Mr. Utula Utuoc Samana (Papua New Guinea) as Chairman and Ms. Cecilia Mackenna (Chile) as Rapporteur of the Subcommittee.

37. The Subcommittee held 8 meetings, as well as a number of unofficial meetings, between 22 May and 6 June and submitted a report (A/AC.109/L.1829), which the Special Committee considered at its 1442nd, 1447th, 1450th and 1451st meetings, between 10 and 18 July.

38. An account of the Special Committee's consideration of the report of the Subcommittee relating to (a) American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, Tokelau, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands and (b) dissemination of information on decolonization is contained in chapter X (A/50/23 (Part VI)) and chapter III (see A/50/23 (Part II)), respectively, of the present report.

E. Question of the list of Territories to which the Declaration is applicable

39. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February 1995, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of its work (A/AC.109/L.1828), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to allocate the question of the list of Territories to which the Declaration is applicable to the Working Group as appropriate. In taking that decision, the Committee recalled that, in its report to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session, 5/ it had stated that, subject to any directives that the Assembly might wish to give in that connection, it would continue, as part of its programme of work for 1995, to review the list of Territories to which the Declaration applied. The Committee further recalled that, by paragraph 5 of resolution 49/89, the Assembly had approved the report of the Committee, including the programme of work envisaged by the Committee for 1995.

40. At its 1447th to 1449th meetings, on 13 and 14 July, the Special Committee considered the question on the basis of the recommendations contained in the 102nd report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.1835). The relevant paragraph of that report reads as follows:

> "10. The Working Group decided to recommend that the Special Committee should continue consideration of the question at its next session, subject to any directives which the General Assembly might give at its fiftieth session."

41. At its 1449th meeting, the Special Committee approved the above recommendation of the Working Group.

Special Committee decision of 15 August 1991 concerning Puerto Rico 6/

42. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of its work (A/AC.109/L.1828), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up as appropriate an item entitled "Special Committee decision of 15 August 1991 concerning Puerto Rico" and to consider it at its plenary meetings.

43. At its 1442nd meeting, on 10 July, on the proposal of the Expanded Bureau, the Committee decided to extend the postponement of the above item until 1996 and give due consideration to the requests for hearing on the basis of its usual practice.

44. At the 1447th meeting, on 13 July, the Chairman drew attention to a number of communications received from organizations expressing the wish to be heard on Puerto Rico by the Special Committee. On the basis of the decision it had taken at its 1442nd meeting, the Committee agreed to accede to those requests and, at the 1447th meeting, heard the representatives of the organizations concerned, as indicated below:

Petitioners

Mr. Harry Anduze Montaño, Colegio de Abogados de Puerto Rico

Mr. Noel Colón Martinez, on behalf of Comisión Presidencial, Congreso Nacional Hostosiano

Ms. Eunice Santana Melecio, on behalf of Nuevo Movimiento Independentista de Puerto Rico

Ms. Ana M. López, on behalf of the National Committee to Free Puerto Rican Political Prisoners and Prisoners of War

Mr. Fernando Martín, on behalf of the Puerto Rican Independence Party

Ms. Jennifer Green, on behalf of the Center for Constitutional Rights

F. Consideration of other matters

1. Matters relating to the small Territories

45. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February 1995, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of its work (ibid.), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to include in its agenda for the current session an item entitled "Matters relating to the small Territories" and to consider it at its plenary meetings and at meetings of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance.

46. In taking these decisions, the Special Committee took into account the provisions of the relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 49/89, by paragraph 10 (d) of which the Assembly requested the Committee: "To continue to pay special attention to the small Territories, in particular through the dispatch of regular visiting missions, and to recommend to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination and independence;".

47. During the year, the Special Committee and its Subcommittee gave extensive consideration to all phases of the situation obtaining in the small Territories (see chaps. IX and X of the present report, A/50/23 (Parts V and VI)).

2. Compliance of Member States with the Declaration and other relevant resolutions on decolonization

48. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of its work (A/AC.109/L.1828), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to consider at its plenary meetings and at meetings of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance the question of compliance of Member States with the Declaration and other relevant resolutions on decolonization.

49. The Special Committee and its Subcommittee accordingly took that decision into account in their consideration of specific items.

3. Question of holding a series of meetings away from Headquarters

50. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of its work (ibid.), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up the question of holding a series of meetings away from Headquarters as appropriate and to refer it to its Working Group for consideration and recommendations.

51. Having regard to its programme of work for 1996, the Special Committee, at its 1447th to 1449th meetings, on 13 and 14 July, considered the question of holding meetings away from Headquarters, taking into account the provisions of paragraph 6 of General Assembly resolution 1654 (XVI) of 27 November 1961 and paragraph 3 (9) of resolution 2621 (XXV) of 12 October 1970, by which the Assembly authorized the Committee to meet elsewhere than at United Nations Headquarters whenever and wherever such meetings might be required for the effective discharge of its functions. At its 1449th meeting, on 14 July, by approving the recommendations contained in the 102nd report of its Working Group (A/AC.109/L.1835), the Committee decided, inter alia, that it would consider accepting such invitations as might be received in 1996 in connection with the above question, and, when particulars of such meetings had become known, that the Committee would request the Secretary-General to seek the necessary budgetary provision in accordance with established procedure.

4. Pattern of conferences

52. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of its work (A/AC.109/L.1828), the Special Committee decided, inter alia, to take up as appropriate an item entitled "Pattern of conferences" and to refer it to its Working Group for consideration and recommendations. In so doing, the Committee was conscious of the fact that it had initiated some important measures in rationalizing its work methods, many of which were subsequently incorporated in a number of resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly. Further recalling the measures it had taken heretofore in that connection, the Committee decided to continue to exercise its initiatives in the effective utilization of the limited conference resources and the further reduction of its documentation requirements.

53. During the year, the Special Committee also continued the practice of circulating communications and information material, as far as possible, in the form of informal notes and aides-mémoire in the original language of submission, thus curtailing documentation requirements by some 1,500 pages and accruing considerable savings for the Organization. A list of the official documents issued by the Committee in 1995 is contained in the annex to the present chapter.

54. At its 1447th to 1449th meetings, on 13 and 14 July, the Special Committee considered the item on the basis of the recommendations contained in the 102nd report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.1835). The relevant paragraphs of that report, as orally amended, read as follows:

> "5. The Working Group noted that, during the year, the Special Committee had closely followed the guidelines set forth in the resolutions of the

General Assembly on the pattern of conferences, in particular resolutions 48/222 of 23 December 1993 and 49/221 of 23 December 1994. The Committee had continued its efforts to streamline and organize its work effectively, which resulted, in particular, in a more compressed session of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance in 1995. The Working Group recommended that the Committee should continue to make optimum and effective use of conference-servicing resources, in accordance with the request of the Secretary-General to all Member States in connection with the critical financial situation of the United Nations.

"6. The Working Group decided to recommend that, taking into account the probable workload of the Special Committee for 1995, the Committee should consider holding its meetings in accordance with the following schedule:

(a) Special Committee

February/June	As required
July	Up to 20 meetings (6-8 meetings a week)

(b) Subcommittee and Working Group

March/June	20 meetings (1-4 meetings a week)

"7. It was understood that that programme would not preclude the holding of any ad hoc meetings that might be warranted and that the Special Committee might, in early 1996, review the scheduled meetings on the basis of any new developments. The Working Group recommended that, subject to any directives given by the General Assembly, the Special Committee, while fulfilling its mandate, should strive to keep its meetings to a minimum."

55. At its 1449th meeting, the Special Committee approved the above recommendations.

5. Control and limitation of documentation

56. At its 1447th to 1449th meetings, on 13 and 14 July, the Special Committee considered the question of control and limitation of documentation on the basis of recommendations contained in the 102nd report of the Working Group (ibid.). The relevant paragraphs of that report, as orally amended, read as follows:

"8. The Working Group noted that, during the year, the Special Committee had taken further measures to control and limit its documentation in compliance with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, in particular resolutions 34/50 of 23 November 1979, 39/68 of 13 December 1984 and 49/221 B of 23 December 1994. The Working Group recommended that, consistent with the goal of limiting documentation, the Special Committee should streamline its report to the General Assembly.

"9. By its resolution 49/221 B, the General Assembly requested all bodies to submit, in accordance with existing procedures, to the Assembly at its fiftieth session, through the Committee on Conferences, justification for the continuation of the current entitlement of meeting records. Having reviewed the need for such records, the Working Group decided to recommend to the Special Committee to replace its verbatim records with summary records."

57. At the 1449th meeting, the Special Committee approved the above recommendations.

6. Cooperation and participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee

58. In compliance with the provisions of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, the delegations of New Zealand and Portugal, as representatives of the administering Powers concerned, continued to participate, in accordance with established procedure, in the related work of the Special Committee as reflected in chapters IX and X of the present report (A/50/23 (Parts V and VI)).

59. The delegations of France, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America did not participate in the work of the Committee. 7/

60. In a related context, the Special Committee, at its 1442nd meeting, on 10 July, adopted draft resolution A/AC.109/L.1832, as orally amended, on the question of sending visiting missions to Territories, as resolution A/AC.109/2031. By this resolution, the Committee noted with appreciation that, at the invitation of the Government of New Zealand, a visiting mission was dispatched to Tokelau in July 1994. It called upon the administering Powers to cooperate or continue to cooperate with the United Nations by receiving United Nations visiting missions in the Territories under their administration (see chap. IV, para. 20, of the present report, A/50/23 (Part II)).

7. Participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the Special Committee

61. Also at its 1447th to 1449th meetings, on 13 and 14 July, the Special Committee considered the question of the participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in its work on the basis of recommendations contained in the 102nd report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.1835). The relevant paragraph of that report reads as follows:

> "13. The Working Group decided to recommend that the participation of representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the Special Committee at Headquarters, as recommended by the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, should continue to be facilitated through the reimbursement by the United Nations of the expenses relating to their participation under the terms of the guidelines amended by the Committee and approved by the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session. In that regard, the Working Group decided to recommend that the Special Committee consider the guidelines at its plenary meetings with a view to amending them further, where appropriate."

62. At the 1449th meeting, the Special Committee approved the above recommendation.

8. Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of All Colonial Territories Fighting for Freedom, Independence and Human Rights

63. Under the terms of General Assembly resolution 2911 (XXVII) of 2 November 1972, by paragraph 2 of which the Assembly recommended that, "on the occasion of the Week, ... appropriate materials should be published in the press and broadcast on radio and television and public campaigns should be conducted with a view to obtaining contributions to the Assistance Fund for the Struggle against Colonialism ...", and as reflected in the report of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance relating to the question of dissemination of information on decolonization (A/AC.109/L.1829), the Chairman of the Subcommittee made a statement on 25 May in commemoration of the Week (see chap. III, para. 8, of the present report, A/50/23 (Part II)).

9. Representation at seminars, meetings and conferences of intergovernmental and other organizations

64. At its 1447th to 1449th meetings, on 13 and 14 July, the Special Committee considered the following recommendation contained in the 102nd report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.1835), as orally amended:

> "4. The Working Group proposed that the Special Committee recommend to the General Assembly that the Committee should continue to be represented at seminars, meetings and conferences organized by United Nations bodies and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations active in the field of decolonization. In keeping with its decision of 27 February 1995 (see A/AC.109/PV.1441), the Committee would authorize its Chairman to hold consultations, as appropriate, concerning its participation in those meetings, as well as the level of representation, when accepting invitations. In accordance with established practice, the Chairman would hold consultations with the Bureau members who, in turn, would consult with the members of the Committee from their respective regional groups. The Working Group also recommended that the General Assembly make appropriate budgetary provisions to cover such activities in 1996."

65. At the 1449th meeting, the Special Committee approved the above recommendation.

10. Expansion of the Working Group

66. At its 1447th to 1449th meetings, on 13 and 14 July, the Special Committee considered the question of expansion of the Working Group on the basis of the recommendation contained in the 102nd report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.1835). The relevant paragraph of that report, as orally amended, reads as follows:

> "15. The Working Group decided to recommend to the Special Committee to make the Working Group open-ended to the members of the Committee."

67. At its 1449th meeting, the Special Committee approved the above recommendation.

11. Report of the Special Committee to the General Assembly

68. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February, by adopting the suggestions relating to the organization of its work (A/AC.109/L.1828) and in accordance with paragraph 31 of General Assembly decision 34/401, on the rationalization of the procedures and organization of the Assembly, the Special Committee decided to follow the procedure adopted at its 1994 session 8/ in connection with the formulation of its recommendations to the Assembly at its fiftieth session.

69. At its 1442nd meeting, on 10 July, the Special Committee decided to authorize its Rapporteur to prepare and submit directly to the General Assembly the various chapters of the report of the Committee in accordance with established practice and procedure.

12. Other questions

70. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of its work (ibid.), the Special Committee decided to request the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance, in its examination of specific Territories, to take into account the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions and decisions listed in the note by the Secretary-General on the organization of work of the Special Committee (A/AC.109/L.1827, paras. 11-12).

71. This decision was taken into account during the consideration of specific Territories and other items at both Subcommittee and plenary meetings.

G. Relations with United Nations bodies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations

1. Security Council

72. In paragraph 10 (b) of its resolution 49/89 of 16 December 1994, the General Assembly requested the Special Committee "to make concrete suggestions which could assist the Security Council in considering appropriate measures under the Charter with regard to developments in colonial Territories that are likely to threaten international peace and security".

2. Economic and Social Council

73. In connection with the Special Committee's consideration of the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations, and in accordance with paragraph 19 of General Assembly resolution 49/41 of 9 December 1994, relating to that item, consultations were held during the year between the President of the Economic and Social Council and the Chairman of the Special Committee to consider "appropriate measures for coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies ... in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly". Further, the Acting Chairman of the Special Committee participated in the Council's consideration of the related item. An account of the foregoing, and of the Committee's consideration of the item, is set out in chapter VII of the present report (see A/50/23 (Part IV)).

3. Commission on Human Rights

74. During the year, the Special Committee followed closely the work of the Commission on Human Rights in regard to the question of the right of peoples to self-determination and its application to peoples under colonial domination, and to the question of the violation of human rights and fundamental freedoms in any part of the world, with particular reference to colonial and other dependent Territories.

75. In its consideration of the Territories concerned, the Special Committee took into account the relevant resolutions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights, including resolutions 1995/7 of 17 February 1995; 1995/11, 1995/15, 1995/17, 1995/21 and 1995/22 of 24 February 1995; 1995/30 of 3 March 1995; and 1995/80 of 8 March 1995; and resolution 1995/26 of 3 March 1995 on the work of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, as well as the Subcommission's report. 9/ The Committee also took note of the report of the Special Rapporteur relating to East Timor. 10/ The Committee also took into account the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, including resolutions 49/145, 49/146, 49/148, 49/150, 49/151, 49/159, 49/161, 49/168, 49/180, 49/181, 49/183, 49/186, 49/208 and 49/214 of 23 December 1994.

4. Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

76. During the year, having regard to the relevant provisions of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Special Committee continued to follow the work of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (see also paras. 84 and 85).

5. Specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations

77. In accordance with the requests contained in the relevant General Assembly resolutions, the Special Committee continued its consideration of the question of implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations. The Committee held consultations during the year with officials of several organizations. An account of those consultations and of the Committee's consideration of the question is set out in chapter VII of the present report (see A/50/23 (Part IV)).

78. During the year, the Special Committee adopted decisions relating to the extension of assistance to the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories. Those decisions are reflected in chapters VII and X of the present report (A/50/23 (Parts IV and VI)).

6. Organization of African Unity

79. Bearing in mind its earlier decision to maintain contact with the Organization of African Unity (OAU) on a regular basis in order to assist in the effective discharge of its mandate, the Special Committee, as in previous years, followed closely the work of the OAU and maintained close liaison with its General Secretariat on matters of common interest.

7. Caribbean Community

80. The Special Committee continued to follow closely the work of the Caribbean Community relating to the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the Caribbean region.

8. South Pacific Forum

81. During the year, the Special Committee continued to follow closely the work of the South Pacific Forum concerning the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the South Pacific region.

9. Movement of Non-Aligned Countries

82. The Acting Chairman was scheduled to represent the Special Committee at the Eleventh Conference of Heads of State or Government of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, to be held at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, from 14 to 20 October (see also para. 27).

10. Non-governmental organizations

83. Having regard to the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolutions 49/89 and 49/90 of 16 December 1994, the Special Committee continued to follow closely the activities of non-governmental organizations having a special interest in the field of decolonization. The related decisions of the Committee are reflected in Chapter III of the present report (see A/50/23 (Part II)).

H. Action relating to international conventions/ studies/programmes

1. International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

84. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February 1995, by adopting the suggestions put forward by the Chairman relating to the organization of its work (A/AC.109/L.1828), the Special Committee decided to include in the agenda of its 1995 session an item entitled "International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination" and to consider it at its plenary meetings and at meetings of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance, in its examination of specific Territories.

85. The Special Committee continued during the year to monitor related developments in Territories, having regard to the relevant provisions of article 15 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (see resolution 2106 A (XX), annex).

2. Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination

86. The Special Committee continued to take into account the provisions of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations bodies concerned relating to the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, including in particular General Assembly resolution 49/146 of 23 December 1994, the relevant report of

the Secretary-General, 11/ and Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/59 of 28 July 1995.

87. During the year, the Special Committee, in a related context, took into account the relevant provisions of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/11 of 24 February 1995 concerning the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Third Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination.

I. Review of work

88. As noted elsewhere in the current report, the reform processes initiated by the Special Committee in 1991, which brought about a number of changes and improvements in its approach, methods and procedures, were again pursued in 1995. The measures adopted by the Committee included the streamlining and consolidation of a number of its resolutions. With regard to the preparation of the consolidated draft resolution, it was recommended that extensive consultations should be held with the administering Powers concerned and with representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories, and that all administering Powers concerned should be urged to cooperate fully with the Committee. As in previous years, the Committee's recommendation to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session on 12 Territories were consolidated into a single resolution (chap. X, paras. 24 and 25, of the present report (A/50/23 (Part VI)); see also A/AC.109/2035).

89. The Special Committee also reviewed carefully its resolutions on the question of sending visiting missions to Territories (A/AC.109/2031), information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations (A/AC.109/2032), activities of foreign economic and other interests (A/AC.109/2038) and implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (A/AC.109/2040), as well as its decision on military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration (A/AC.109/2039).

90. As reported in chapter II of the present report, the Special Committee held a regional seminar in Trinidad and Tobago in July 1995 in implementation of the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991.

91. In accordance with the mandate entrusted to it by the General Assembly, the Special Committee continued during its 1995 session to seek suitable means for the implementation of Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) in all Territories to which the Declaration is applicable and formulated specific proposals and recommendations in that regard.

92. On the question of the publicity to be given to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization, the Special Committee adopted a resolution (A/AC.109/2036) which it recommends to the General Assembly for action at its fiftieth session (see chap. III of the present report, A/50/23 (Part II)).

93. During the year, the Special Committee also continued its review of the list of Territories to which the Declaration is applicable. As regards the Special Committee's decision of 15 August 1991 concerning Puerto Rico, the Committee decided to defer consideration of that decision until 1996. However, in accordance with the recommendation of the Expanded Bureau, endorsed by the

Special Committee at its 1442nd meeting, on 10 July, the Committee did hear representatives of organizations concerned.

94. In accordance with the guidelines established by the General Assembly, the Special Committee was able during the year to reduce to a minimum the number of its formal meetings and to minimize the wastage resulting from cancellation of scheduled meetings.

J. Future work

95. In accordance with the mandate entrusted to it in the relevant General Assembly resolutions, and subject to any further directives which it may receive from the Assembly during its fiftieth session, the Special Committee intends during 1996 to pursue its efforts in seeking the best ways and means for the implementation of the Declaration in all Territories that have not yet attained independence. In particular, the Committee will keep under review developments concerning each Territory, as well as the compliance by all States, in particular the administering Powers, with the relevant decisions and resolutions of the United Nations. On the basis of that review, the Committee will continue to submit conclusions and recommendations on the specific measures necessary to achieve the objectives set out in the Declaration and the relevant provisions of the Charter. The Committee also intends to continue its review of the list of Territories to which the Declaration is applicable.

96. The Special Committee will continue to make concrete suggestions which could assist the Security Council in considering appropriate measures under the Charter with regard to developments in colonial Territories that are likely to threaten international peace and security.

97. The Special Committee will continue to fulfil the responsibilities that have been entrusted to it in the context of the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991. The activities to be undertaken in this connection include a seminar in the Pacific region to be organized by the Committee in 1996, to be attended by the representatives of all the Non-Self-Governing Territories.

98. The Special Committee will continue to pay special attention to the specific problems of the small island Territories which constitute the overwhelming majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories. Aware that, in addition to general problems facing developing countries, those island Territories also suffer handicaps arising from the interplay of such factors as size, remoteness, geographical dispersion, vulnerability to natural disasters, the fragility of their ecosystems, constraints in transport and communications, great distances from market centres, a highly limited internal market, lack of natural resources, weak indigenous technological capacity, the acute problem of obtaining freshwater supplies, heavy dependence on imports and a small number of commodities, depletion of non-renewable resources, migration, particularly of personnel with high-level skills, shortage of administrative personnel and heavy financial burdens, the Special Committee will continue to recommend measures to facilitate a sustained and balanced growth of the fragile economies of those Territories and increased assistance in the development of all the sectors of their economies, with particular emphasis on programmes of diversification. In so doing, the Committee will continue to take into consideration the recommendations of the regional seminars that the Committee has organized since

1990 (see A/AC.109/1040 and Corr.1, A/AC.109/1043, A/AC.109/1114, A/AC.109/1159 and A/AC.109/2030).

99. It is the Special Committee's intention to continue to follow closely the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations. In so doing, the Committee, as in the past, will review the action taken or envisaged by international organizations in the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly. The Committee will hold further consultations and contacts with those organizations, as appropriate. The Committee will also be guided by the results of further consultations to be held in 1996 between its Chairman and the President of the Economic and Social Council within the context of the relevant decisions of the Assembly, the Council and the Committee itself. Further, the Committee will maintain close contact with the Secretaries-General and senior officials of regional organizations such as the Organization of African Unity, the Organization of American States, the Caribbean Community, and the South Pacific Forum, particularly those in the Caribbean and Pacific regions where the majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories are located. The objective of those contacts is to facilitate the effective implementation of the decisions of the various United Nations bodies and to foster cooperation between the specialized agencies and the regional organizations in their assistance to the Non-Self-Governing Territories in those regions.

100. The Special Committee intends to continue to review measures to bring an end to the activities of those foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration in Non-Self-Governing Territories, and also to continue its study of military activities and arrangements in those Territories.

101. In its resolutions relating to Non-Self-Governing Territories, the General Assembly has repeatedly called upon the administering Powers to cooperate or continue to cooperate with the Special Committee by inviting United Nations visiting missions to the Territories under their administration. Having regard to the constructive role played by such missions in the past, the Committee continues to attach the utmost importance to the dispatch of visiting missions as a means of collecting adequate and first-hand information on conditions in the Territories and on the wishes and aspirations of the people concerning their future status. Accordingly, the Committee will continue to seek the full cooperation of the administering Powers on the matter.

102. Taking into consideration its mandate over Western Sahara and its primary responsibility to ensure the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514 (XV) for all Non-Self-Governing Territories, and in accordance with a decision it had taken at its 1397th meeting, on 23 August 1991, the Special Committee may dispatch a mission to Western Sahara during the holding of the referendum in the Territory.

103. Taking into account the views expressed by the representatives of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories at the regional seminars organized by the Special Committee since 1990, as well as the recommendations contained in the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, the Committee will continue to consider, in cooperation with the administering Powers, how to intensify and improve the participation of the representatives of those Territories in the work of the Committee within the existing resources.

104. In the light of the provisions of the General Assembly resolutions concerning the pattern of conferences, and taking into consideration its experience in previous years, as well as its probable workload for 1996, the Special Committee has approved a tentative programme of meetings for 1996, which it commends to the Assembly for approval.

105. The Special Committee suggests that, when the General Assembly, at its fiftieth session, examines the question of the implementation of the Declaration, it may wish to take into account the various recommendations of the Committee which are reflected in the relevant chapters of the present report and, in particular, to endorse the proposals outlined in the present section in order to enable the Committee to carry out the tasks it envisages for 1996. In addition, the Committee recommends that the Assembly should renew its appeal to the administering Powers to take all necessary steps for the implementation of the Declaration and the relevant United Nations resolutions, in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples of the Territories concerned. In this connection, the Committee recommends that the Assembly should again request the administering Powers to cooperate or continue to cooperate with the Committee in the discharge of its mandate and, in particular, to participate actively in the work relating to the Territories under their respective administrations. Bearing in mind the affirmation by the Assembly that direct association of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies is an effective means of promoting the progress of the peoples of those Territories towards a position of equality with States Members of the United Nations, the Committee also recommends that the Assembly should continue to invite the administering Powers to allow representatives of the Territories concerned to participate in the discussions in the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) and the Special Committee of the items relating to their respective Territories. Further, the Assembly might also wish to renew its appeal to all States, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to comply with the various requests addressed to them by the Assembly and the Security Council in their relevant resolutions.

106. The Special Committee recommends that, in approving the programme of work outlined above, the General Assembly should make adequate provision to cover the activities the Committee envisages for 1996. In this regard, the Special Committee recalls that the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 includes resources to provide for the programme of work of the Special Committee for 1996 and 1997 based on the level of activities approved for the year 1995, without prejudice to the decisions to be taken by the General Assembly at its fiftieth session. On that basis, the Special Committee understands that should any additional provisions be required over and above those included in the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997, proposals for supplementary requirements would be made for its approval to the General Assembly. Finally, the Committee expresses the hope that the Secretary-General will continue to provide it with all the facilities and personnel necessary for the discharge of its mandate, taking into account the various tasks assigned to it by the Assembly as well as those arising from decisions taken by it during the current year.

K. Conclusion of the 1995 session

107. At its 1442nd meeting, on 10 July 1995, the Special Committee decided to request the Rapporteur to prepare the present report and submit it directly to the General Assembly, in accordance with established practice.

108. At the 1453rd meeting, on 16 August, the Acting Chairman made a statement on the occasion of the closing of the 1995 session of the Special Committee (see A/AC.109/PV.1453).

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventeenth Session, Annexes, addendum to agenda item 25, document A/5238.

2/ See the reports of the Special Committee submitted to the General Assembly at its eighteenth to forty-ninth sessions. For the most recent, see Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/48/23); and ibid., Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/49/23).

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/49/23).

4/ Ibid., chap. I, sect. J.

5/ Ibid., chap. I, para. 99.

6/ Ibid., Forty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/46/23), chap. I, para. 56.

7/ For the explanation of their non-participation, see documents A/47/86, A/42/651, annex, and Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/41/23), chap. I, paras. 76 and 77.

8/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 23 (A/49/23), chap. I, paras. 70-71.

9/ E/CN.4/1995/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1994/56.

10/ E/CN/4/1995/61/Add.1.

11/ E/1995/111 and Add.1.

Annex

LIST OF OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE, 1995

Document No.	Title	Date
Documents issued in the general series		
A/AC.109/INF/33	List of delegations	12 July 1995
A/AC.109/2012	Pitcairn (working paper)	10 April 1995
A/AC.109/2013 and Corr.1 and Add.1	Cayman Islands (working paper)	3 April 1995 1 May 1995 5 May 1995
A/AC.109/2014	United States Virgin Islands (working paper)	3 April 1995
A/AC.109/2015 and Add.1	Turks and Caicos Islands (working paper)	27 April 1995 5 May 1995
A/AC.109/2016 and Add.1	Anguilla (working paper)	27 April 1995 5 May 1995
A/AC.109/2017 and Add.1	British Virgin Islands (working paper)	1 May 1995 5 May 1995
A/AC.109/2018	Guam (working paper)	1 May 1995
A/AC.109/2019 and Add.1	Montserrat (working paper)	1 May 1995 5 May 1995
A/AC.109/2020 and Add.1	Bermuda (working paper)	2 May 1995 5 May 1995
A/AC.109/2021	St. Helena (working paper)	2 May 1995
A/AC.109/2022	Tokelau (working paper)	5 May 1995
A/AC.109/2023	American Samoa (working paper)	17 May 1995
A/AC.109/2024	International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: mid-term review of the Plan of Action. Caribbean regional seminar, to be held at Port-of-Spain from 3 to 5 July 1995: guidelines	6 June 1995
A/AC.109/2025	Gibraltar (working paper)	23 June 1995
A/AC.109/2026	East Timor (working paper)	22 June 1995
A/AC.109/2027 and Corr.1	Falkland Islands (Malvinas) (working paper)	22 June 1995 10 July 1995
A/AC.109/2028	New Caledonia (working paper)	18 June 1995
A/AC.109/2029 and Add.1	Western Sahara (working paper)	22 June 1995 3 October 1995

Document No.	Title	Date
A/AC.109/2030	International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: mid-term review of the Plan of Action. Report of the Caribbean Regional Seminar, held at Port-of-Spain from 3 to 5 July 1995	11 July 1995
A/AC.109/2031	Question of sending visiting missions to Territories: resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1442nd meeting on 10 July 1995	11 July 1995
A/AC.109/2032	Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations: resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1442nd meeting, on 10 July 1995	11 July 1995
A/AC.109/2033	Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas): resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1446th meeting, on 13 July 1995	14 July 1995
A/AC.109/2034	Question of New Caledonia: resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1447th meeting, on 13 July 1995	14 July 1995
A/AC.109/2035	Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, St. Helena, Tokelau, Turks and Caicos Islands and United States Virgin Islands: consolidated resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1451st meeting, on 18 July 1995	20 July 1995
A/AC.109/2036	Dissemination of information and decolonization: resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1451st meeting, on 18 July 1995	20 July 1995
A/AC.109/2037	Letter dated 20 July 1995 from the Permanent Representative of Bulgaria to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Special Committee	7 August 1995

Document No.	Title	Date
A/AC.109/2038	Activities of foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under colonial domination: resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1453rd meeting, on 16 August 1995	21 August 1995
A/AC.109/2039	Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration: decision adopted by the Special Committee at its 1453rd meeting, on 16 August 1995	21 August 1995
A/AC.109/2040	Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations: resolution adopted by the Special Committee at its 1453rd meeting, on 16 August 1995	21 August 1995
Documents issued in the limited series		
A/AC.109/L.1827	Organization of work: relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly: note by the Secretary-General	13 February 1995
A/AC.109/L.1828	Organization of work: note by the Chairman	13 February 1995
A/AC.109/L.1829	Report of the Subcommittee on Small Territories, Petitions, Information and Assistance	8 June 1995
A/AC.109/L.1830	Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas): draft resolution	11 July 1995
A/AC.109/L.1831	Question of sending visiting missions to Territories: report of the Chairman	5 July 1995
A/AC.109/L.1832	Question of sending visiting missions to Territories: draft resolution submitted by the Chairman	6 July 1995

Document No.	Title	Date
A/AC.109/L.1833	Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 e of the Charter of the United Nations: draft resolution submitted by the Chairman	6 July 1995
A/AC.109/L.1834	Question of New Caledonia: draft resolution	10 July 1995
A/AC.109/L.1835	102nd report of the Working Group	11 July 1995
A/AC.109/L.1836	Activities of foreign economic and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under colonial domination: draft resolution submitted by the Acting Chairman	17 July 1995
A/AC.109/L.1837	Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration: draft decision submitted by the Acting Chairman	17 July 1995
A/AC.109/L.1838	Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations: report of the Acting Chairman	7 August 1995
A/AC.109/L.1839	Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations: draft resolution submitted by the Acting Chairman	8 August 1995

CHAPTER II

INTERNATIONAL DECADE FOR THE ERADICATION OF COLONIALISM

1. On 19 December 1991, at its forty-sixth session, the General Assembly adopted resolution 46/181, entitled "International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism", and the Plan of Action contained in the annex to the report of the Secretary-General dated 13 December 1991 (A/46/634/Rev.1). In the Plan of Action "aimed at ushering in, in the twenty-first century, a world free from colonialism", the Assembly, inter alia, requested the Special Committee to:

> "Organize during the Decade seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions alternately, as well as at United Nations Headquarters, to review the progress achieved in the implementation of the plan of action, with the participation of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, their elected representatives, the administering Powers, Member States, regional organizations, specialized agencies, non-governmental organizations and experts".

2. The Special Committee considered the question "International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism" and the Caribbean Regional Seminar on the Mid-term Review of the Plan of Action at its 1441st meeting on 27 February and its 1442nd, 1447th to 1449th and 1451st meetings, between 10 and 18 July 1995.

3. At its 1441st meeting, on 27 February, the Special Committee, mindful of the mandate entrusted to it by the General Assembly in the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and by approving the recommendation of its Chairman on the Committee's organization of work for the year (A/AC.109/L.1828), decided to allocate to the Working Group and plenary meetings of the Committee, as appropriate, the question "International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism".

4. On 6 June, the guidelines for the Caribbean Regional Seminar (A/AC.109/2024) were issued.

5. On 23 June, the Chairman of the Special Committee drew the attention of the members of the Committee to an aide-mémoire relating, inter alia, to the venue and timing of the Seminar.

6. A detailed account of the organization and proceedings of the Caribbean Regional Seminar, which was held at Port-of-Spain from 3 to 5 July 1995, as well as a summary of the discussions held, is contained in the report prepared by its Rapporteur (A/AC.109/2030). The report includes the topics discussed at the Seminar, as well as the list of participants.

7. At its 1442nd meeting, on 10 July, the Acting Chairman made a statement relating to the report of the Seminar (see A/AC.109/PV.1442).

8. At its 1447th to 1449th meetings, on 13 and 14 July, the Special Committee considered the question of the International Decade on the basis of the recommendations contained in the 102nd report of the Working Group (A/AC.109/L.1835), the relevant paragraphs of which, as orally amended, read as follows:

> "12. Noting that the Plan of Action for the International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism provided for the holding of seminars alternately

in the Caribbean and the Pacific regions, the Working Group decided to recommend to the Special Committee that it should organize in 1996 a seminar in the Pacific region, to be attended, in particular, by representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the region.

"13. The Working Group further decided to recommend that the Special Committee should invite United Nations organs, agencies and institutions to apprise the Secretary-General of actions they have taken in implementation of General Assembly resolution 46/181 of 19 December 1991 relating to the Plan of Action and submit a report to the Assembly at its fifty-first session."

9. At the 1449th meeting, the Special Committee approved the above recommendations.

10. At the 1451st meeting, on 18 July, statements were made by the representatives of the Russian Federation, Cuba, the United Republic of Tanzania, Indonesia, Tunisia, Portugal, Papua New Guinea, the Islamic Republic of Iran, China and the Syrian Arab Republic (A/AC.109/PV.1451).

11. At the same meeting, the Special Committee decided to take note of the Report of the Seminar (A/AC.109/2030), it being understood that the reservations expressed by members would be reflected in the record of the meeting (A/AC.109/PV.1451).